

# STUDENT TEST BOOKLET



## Argumentative Writing Grade 8 (Passage Based-Article)

Directions: The section below is a rough draft of the story Jennifer is writing. Read it carefully and choose the best answer for each question. Mark your answers for each multiple-choice question in your Student Response Booklet. Mark only one answer for each question and fill in the circle completely. Read Jennifer's draft and use it to answer Numbers 1 through 10.

### The Visit

(1) Jake could not wait for summer vacation because his sister Janet would be home from college. (2) Jake had missed Janet terribly while she had been away, but he was sure it would be just like old times when Janet got home.

(3) Janet's first night home was nothing like Jake had planned. (4) Out the door after dinner Janet rushed to meet her friends. (5) Jake didn't even get a chance to tell their sister about all the plans he had made for their summer fun together. (6) Still, Jake was patient. (7) He was sure that they would spend some time together the next day.

(8) However, Jake was disappointed again. (9) Janet hurried off to her summer job right after breakfast, and did not return until dinnertime. (10) After dinner, she rushed out again. (11) Her entire next week home. (12) Janet always seemed to be in a hurry to go somewhere.

(13) One night Jake sat quietly at the dinner table, looking abandoned. (14) At that point, Janet realized she had been neglecting her brother. (15) To make it up to him, Janet decided to surprise Jake with an outing.

(16) The next morning Jake awoke to find Janet packing poles hooks, and bait for a fishing trip. (17) Sure that Janet was going somewhere with her friends, Jake rolled over and closed his eyes again.

(18) Janet teased, "Hey, sleepyhead, we'd better get going if were going too get a good spot on the lake."

(19) Jake did not need a second invitation. (20) He was out of bed, and he was dressed, and it was in a flash. (21) Jake and Janet were together, and they had a fantastic day together. (22) They new this day was special.

1. Choose the sentence that could **best** be added right after sentence 15.
  - A. Last summer was too cold for swimming at the lake.
  - B. Once they had planned a surprise party for their father.
  - C. Janet would be home for a month during winter break.
  - D. She wanted to make sure her brother knew she still cared about him.
2. Which of these is **not** a complete sentence?
  - A. However, Jake was disappointed again.
  - B. Her entire first week home.
  - C. At that point, Janet realized she had been neglecting her brother.
  - D. Jake did not need a second invitation.

3. Jennifer wants to add this sentence to the paragraph that begins with sentence 8.

**During dinner, Janet talked about how much she had missed her friends.**

Where would this sentence **best** fit?

- A. right after sentence 8
  - B. right after sentence 9
  - C. right after sentence 10
  - D. right after sentence 12
4. Choose the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 5.

**Jake didn't even get a chance to tell their sister about all the plans he had made for their summer fun together.**

  - A. to tell our sister
  - B. to tell my sister
  - C. to tell his sister
  - D. No change is needed
5. . Read sentence 4, which is poorly written.

**Out the door after dinner Janet rushed to meet her friends.**

Choose the **best** way to rewrite this sentence

- A. To meet her friends, Janet rushed after dinner out the door.
  - B. Janet rushed out the door after dinner to meet her friends.
  - C. After dinner to meet her friends, out the door Janet rushed.
  - D. Janet, after dinner to meet her friends, rushed out the door.

6. Choose the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 16.

**The next morning Jake awoke to find Janet packing poles hooks, and bait for a fishing trip.**

- A. packing poles, hooks, and bait
- B. packing poles hooks, and bait
- C. packing poles hooks and bait
- D. No change is needed

7. Choose the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 18.

**Janet teased, “Hey, sleepyhead, we’d better get going if we were going too get a good spot on the lake.”**

- A. were going to get a good spot
- B. we’re going to get a good spot
- C. we’re going two get a good spot
- D. No change is needed

8. Read sentence 20, which is poorly written.

**He was out of bed, and he was dressed, and it was in a flash.**

Choose the best way to rewrite this sentence.

- A. He was out of bed. And dressed in a flash.
- B. He was out of bed he was dressed. In a flash.
- C. He was out of bed and dressed in a flash.
- D. He was out of bed he was dressed it was in a flash.

9. Read sentence 21, which is poorly written.

**Jake and Janet were together, and they had a fantastic day together.**

Choose the best way to rewrite it so that it does not repeat ideas.

- A. Jake and Janet were together and the two of them had a fantastic day together.
- B. Jake and Janet together had a fantastic day in each other’s company.
- C. Jake and Janet together had a fantastic day with each other.
- D. Jake and Janet had a fantastic day together.

10. Jennifer wants to add this sentence to the paragraph that begins with sentence 19.

**It was during this outing that Jake realized his big sister really cared.**

Where would this sentence **best** fit?

- A. Right after sentence 19.
- B. Right after sentence 20.
- C. Right after sentence 21.
- D. Right after sentence 22.

## **Should Students Be Paid to Do Well?**

Recently the mayor of a large city announced a plan to pay students who do well in school. This plan has received a lot of attention. Some people disagree with the mayor. They feel that paying students for doing well is a bad idea. Many students and parents do not think there is anything wrong with giving hardworking students some kind of reward. People on both sides believe they know what is best.

Feeling proud when they do a good job is important to students. There are those who believe that paying students teaches them to try just to get the prize. They think that students who always get paid do not care as much about feeling proud as they do about getting the reward. They point to a study of third graders who were rewarded for reading. The study found that after a while, the students only read if they knew they would receive a prize. The researchers say that this shows that rewards do not contribute to student growth over a long period of time.

People who give rewards for good grades say that students should be rewarded if they work extra hard. The reward gives students a reason to try harder. When they get the prize, then they want to do a good job the next time. They also point out that some research shows that rewards work exactly as intended. Seventh-grade students in one study showed a large improvement after their school started a program of paying for learning. Those in favor of similar programs compare it to adults getting paid for the work they do. They believe that it does not matter why the students are working hard as long as they are learning.

## **PASSAGE BASED WRITING PROMPT**

### **Writing situation: (W.8.1)**

The editors of a news magazine for young people want to know what students think about getting paid for doing well in school. They have asked people to write an article supporting or opposing paying students to do well in school. Some of the articles will be published in the next issue of the magazine.

### **Writing directions:**

Write a feature article to be published in the news magazine for young people. Present an argument as to whether or not students should be paid for doing well in school. Provide reasons and details to support your argument.

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A) (B) (C) (D)
2. (A) (B) (C) (D)
3. (A) (B) (C) (D)

4. (A) (B) (C) (D)  
5. (A) (B) (C) (D)  
6. (A) (B) (C) (D)

7. (A) (B) (C) (D)  
8. (A) (B) (C) (D)  
9. (A) (B) (C) (D)

10. (A) (B) (C) (D)  
11. (A) (B) (C) (D)  
12. (A) (B) (C) (D)

*Do not write outside this box.*

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